

About the tests

The TOEFL Primary® Speaking test provides information about the English-language proficiency of young English learners in countries where English is not typically used in daily life. The information on the score report indicates a student’s current level of English speaking proficiency. This information can be used by teachers and parents to place students in the appropriate English class, inform English instruction and monitor progress in learning English. TOEFL Primary scores do not predict future scores on other TOEFL® tests.

Levels and scores

Score reports include both levels and scores. Speaking levels are shown as ribbons. Proficiency descriptors and next steps for learning are provided for each level. The descriptors and next steps are appropriate for typical students at that level but may not apply to all students. Student ability includes skills at that level and levels below.

Scores are shown at the bottom of the score report. The score range is 0–27. Scores can help show student progress within a level. See the chart for more information about the relationship between levels and scores.

TOEFL Primary Speaking scores

Level	Score	CEFR
Typical students at this level:		
 Speak in English to expand descriptions, communicate multistep directions and tell stories effectively	27	B2
	26	
	25	B1
	24	
	23	
 Speak in English to express and explain what they like and give directions	22	A2
	21	
	20	
	19	
 Speak in English to say what they like and give some descriptions	18	A1
	17	
	16	
	15	
 Begin to speak in English by using words and simple statements	14	A1
	13	
	12	
	11	
 Attempt to speak in English using words and simple phrases	10	Below A1
	9	
	8	
	7	
	6	
	5	
	4	
3		
2		
1		
Score reports for students receiving a score of 0 will show NS (No Score).		

CEFR Levels

The Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) is a widely used tool for understanding different stages of language development and proficiency. The CEFR provides descriptors of language performance across a broad range of tasks that are mostly relevant to adult language learners. CEFR descriptors modified to reflect young language learner ability are used to evaluate both TOEFL Primary test content and sample student spoken responses to determine the student's proficiency level according to the CEFR. Large age differences should be kept in mind when comparing CEFR levels across different assessments. Score reports with a score of 0 will show NS for the CEFR level.

Recommended Score Validity—One Year

It is recommended that scores not be used beyond one year due to rapid development of English proficiency by younger learners. Scores can be considered valid beyond one year if the student has provided evidence of having maintained the same level of English-language learning.